

Food and Drug Administration  
FOIA Office  
12420 Parklawn Drive  
Rockville, MD 20850

July 12, 2019

This is a follow up to request number FDA1950067:

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to follow up on the following Freedom of Information Act request, copied below, and originally submitted on Jan. 12, 2019. Please let me know when I can expect to receive a response. You had assigned it reference number #FDA1950067.

Thanks for your help, and let me know if further clarification is needed.

Filed via MuckRock.com  
E-mail (Preferred): 67368-09458555@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 67368  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.

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On June 12, 2019:  
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request #FDA1950067  
Good afternoon,

You request, 2019-752, is currently in the complex queue. We are required to process requests on a first in, first out basis. There are a number of requests in the queue ahead of yours. The estimated wait time is 18-20 months from the time of initial receipt.

Thank you,

Meredith J. Schlaifer, M.S., J.D.

FOIA Officer, Office of the Commissioner

Division of Freedom of Information  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

[cid:image001.png@01D1C57E.DFA022A0]<<http://www.fda.gov/>>

[cid:image002.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0]<<https://www.facebook.com/FDA>>

[cid:image003.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0] <[https://twitter.com/US\\_FDA](https://twitter.com/US_FDA)>

[cid:image004.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0]

<<http://www.youtube.com/user/USFoodandDrugAdmin>>

[cid:image005.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0] <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fdaphotos/>>

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On May 13, 2019:

Subject: FW: Freedom of Information Act Request #FDA1950067

Good afternoon,

Your request is currently in the complex queue. We are required to process requests on a first in, first out basis. There are a number of requests in the queue ahead of yours. The estimated wait time is 18-20 months from the time of initial receipt.

Thank you,

Meredith J. Schlaifer, M.S., J.D.

FOIA Officer, Office of the Commissioner

Division of Freedom of Information

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

[meredith.schlaifer@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:meredith.schlaifer@fda.hhs.gov)<<mailto:meredith.schlaifer@fda.hhs.gov>>

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[cid:image002.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0]<<https://www.facebook.com/FDA>>

[cid:image003.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0] <[https://twitter.com/US\\_FDA](https://twitter.com/US_FDA)>

[cid:image004.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0]

<<http://www.youtube.com/user/USFoodandDrugAdmin>>

[cid:image005.jpg@01D1C57E.DFA022A0] <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fdaphotos/>>

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On Feb. 4, 2019:

Subject: FDA Receipt of FOI Request

Note: Do NOT reply directly to this E-mail

Paul Gottinger Paul Gottinger

Re: Confirmation # FDA1950067

In Reply refer to: 2019-752

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records regarding:

SHUTDOWN TALKING POINTS 12/22/2018 - 01/20/2019

Original Subject: To Whom It May Concern: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records: Any and all talking points and similar memorandums, emails, and transcripts providing advice or direction on how to handle the media, media interviews, and statements used by personnel employed by or working for the Food and Drug Administration, which relates to the US government

shutdown. The time period for this search is from December 22, 2018 to the present date. In addition to any ...

We will respond as soon as possible and may charge you a fee for processing your request. If your informational needs change, and you no longer need the requested records, please contact us to cancel your request, as charges may be incurred once processing of your request has begun. If you have any questions about your request, please call Sarah B. Kotler, Director, Division Of Freedom Of Information at (301) 796-8976 or write to us at: (<http://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/FOI/FOIAFees/default.htm>)

Division of Freedom of Information, U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1035  
Rockville, MD 20857  
Fax:(301)827-9267

You also have the right to seek dispute resolution services from:

FDA FOIA Public Liaison  
Office of the Executive Secretariat  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1050  
Rockville, MD 20857

E-Mail: [FDAFOIA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:FDAFOIA@fda.hhs.gov)

and/or:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road ? OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
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On Jan. 20, 2019:  
Subject: FOI Request Received  
\*\*\* This is an automated message. Please do not reply to this email. \*\*\*

Reference: FDA1950067

Dear Requester,

This is to confirm that you submitted a request for record(s) from the Food and Drug Administration pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. FOIA staff will review your request to determine whether it has sufficient information to be processed; if so, you will receive another email as a formal acknowledgement of your request, with a control number for your request. If your request is not sufficiently described, or if there are any other deficiencies with your submission, FOIA staff will contact you via telephone or email.

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On Jan. 12, 2019:  
Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: Talking Points on US Government Shutdown

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

Any and all talking points and similar memorandums, emails, and transcripts providing advice or direction on how to handle the media, media interviews, and statements used by personnel employed by or working for the Food and Drug Administration, which relates to the US government shutdown.

The time period for this search is from December 22, 2018 to the present date.

In addition to any other material, which meets the criteria of this request, please include in your responsive materials any documents, emails, or communications with the following phrases in the title or subject line:

TALKING POINTS  
STMT  
STATEMENT  
PRESS STRATEGY

I am a career journalist with work that has appeared at The Daily Beast among other publications. I am willing to pay any reasonable expenses associated with this request, however, as the purpose of the requested disclosure is in full conformity with the statutory requirements for a waiver of fees, I formally request such a waiver.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Paul Gottinger

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E-mail (Preferred): 67368-09458555@requests.muckrock.com

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